



No Mow May

"I've heard about this but I don't know much about it"

"My lawn is my pride and joy - I like to keep it mown!"

"The trouble is, my neighbours don't like the street looking scruffy."

Leaving a section of your garden lawn, community space or street verge to itself during the month of May can bring a surprising variety of wild flowers without any seed sowing at all! Did you know that many flowers of value to pollinating insects look good to us? Also, that they grow in shorter verges and can benefit the health of your garden lawn? The humble white clover is a bee magnet; "insect islands" of clover on lawns and grass verges can be mown around, or mowing blades raised to spare the flowers.



Not sure about dandelions? They are a good nectar and pollen source, producing tasty seeds for Goldfinches.

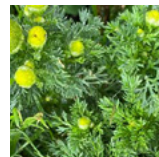
Bird's Foot Trefoil is a low growing, drought tolerant and pretty "bee pub".



If you have "adopted" the road verge outside your home, there is a good chance native flowers are there already! If you (or your neighbours) prefer shorter turf (and no dandelions) here are some you can try:



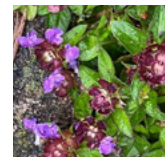
WHITE CLOVER



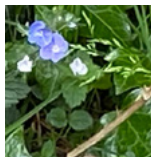
PINEAPPLE WEED



DAISY



SELF HEAL



SPEEDWELL

When the time comes to mow, you will catch the scent of the pineapple cube sweets we loved as children - that's the Pineapple Weed!

MORE INFORMATION AT <https://nomowmay.plantlife.org.uk>

Calling all Ashted residents, schools and community groups!

The Surrey Wildflowering Project encourages and informs people about improving biodiversity and rewilding in our towns and villages. Transition Ashted and Ashted Residents' Association are together promoting the Blue Hearts campaign here in Ashted.

You will begin to see blue hearts popping up in verges and community open spaces to indicate that mowing will be restricted to a single post-summer cut to allow native wild flowers to thrive. This will attract more insects and minibeasts that feed birds and other animals. Although we already have valuable open spaces which are managed for creational use and wildlife, we can do so much more!

Different approaches are being trialed this year and include: planting native species such as violets, clover etc; clearing patches of grass where wildflower seeds such as yellow rattle and poppies, can thrive; and planting native bulb species. Netting or chicken wire may be needed to protect seeds from birds at the start.

**Transition Ashted: transitionashted23@gmail.com
Ashted Residents' Association: ashtedra@fiscali.co.uk**

Adopting a verge in Surrey

A few common sense points to follow, then get your blue heart signs to mark out the patch!

Verges can become stunning new havens for wildlife. Marking them with a "Blue Heart" tells the mowers "Don't mow here please!" Our Blue Heart project encourages native wild flowers. Please do not upset the balance of an established patch of wildflowers. In particular, please don't plant anything too vigorous which will swamp what's already there. There's plenty of information to be found online and in books on what's invasive and what's not.

There are resources available to help you start a

wildflower project in your garden or school.

MORE INFORMATION & OBTAINING YOUR BLUE HEARTS:

https://epsom-ewell-flowerfinder.org/wildflower_booklist.html#R4

MORE RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE BELOW

Use our resources to start a mini meadow.

Points to remember for rewilding verges:

Remember that some tall species may interrupt traffic sightlines so for safety reasons, follow the Surrey County Council guidelines:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roadworks-and-maintenance/trees-grass-andhedges/grass/the-blue-campaign-increasing-biodiversity-in-grass-verges>



About us

The Surrey's Wildflowering Project's aim is to build a partnership that enables wildflowering in our county as well as promoting and celebrating the boroughs'/districts' diverse countryside and urban environments.

Surrey's Wildflowering Project surreyswildfloweringproject@gmail.com

also <https://www.facebook.com/SurreysWildfloweringProjectUK>

More information & useful contacts

No Mow May <https://nomowmay.plantlife.org.uk>

The Blue Campaign for grass verges <https://bluecampaignhub.com>

For Parish Churches: <https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/>

Wildflower seeds and mixes are available from many seed and plant specialists:

Royal Horticultural Society https://www.rhsplants.co.uk/plants/_/seeds/wildflower-seed/plcid.294/plcid.349/

Landlife <https://www.wildflower.co.uk/products/wildflower-seed-mixtures/>

Naturescape <https://www.naturescape.co.uk/product-category/wildflowers/>

